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EXPEDITED HANDLING PROCEDURE  
PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. §1.116  
GROUP ART UNIT:  
Corres. and Mail  
**BOX AF**  
PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

**In re Application of:**

**Application No.:** 10/667,424      **Examiner:** F. L. Stinson  
**Filing Date:** September 23, 2003      **Art Unit:** 1746  
**First Inventor:** Hiroyuki NAKANO      **Customer No.:** 23364  
**Attorney No.:** NAKA3009/JEK/JS      **Confirmation No.:** 1097  
**For:** Dishwasher

**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE AFTER FINAL**

**MAIL STOP AF**  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS**

This is responsive to the Final Official Action mailed March 8, 2006 in the above application.

In view of the following amendments and remarks, submitted under 37 C.F.R. 116, reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

Entry of the amendment at least for purposes of appeal is respectfully requested in view of the fact that the rejected claims are presented in better form for consideration on appeal (37 C.F.R. 116).